

FINAL BILL REPORT

SSB 6138

C 79 L 12
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Exempting certain vehicles from the allowable maximum length restriction for vehicles operated on public highways.

Sponsors: Senate Committee on Transportation (originally sponsored by Senator Ericksen).

Senate Committee on Transportation
House Committee on Transportation

Background: The Federal Highway Administration defines a truck or straight truck as a non-articulating, cargo-carrying, commercial, motor vehicle. Straight trucks are subject to federal weight and width requirements, but not to federal length requirements. The regulations on the length of these commercial trucks remains with the states.

Presently a person cannot legally operate any vehicle, including straight trucks, in the state of Washington having an overall length in excess of 40 feet. This restriction does not apply to: (1) a municipal transit vehicle; (2) auto stage, private carrier bus, school bus, or motor home with an overall length not to exceed 46 feet; or (3) an articulating auto stage with an overall length not to exceed 61 feet. Oregon has set a maximum length for straight trucks of 40 feet and Idaho has a maximum length of 45 feet.

Summary: Auto recycling carriers up to 42 feet in length, that were manufactured prior to 2005, are exempt from the state maximum vehicle length limit.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	45	0	
House	96	0	(House amended)
Senate	48	0	(Senate concurred)

Effective: June 7, 2012

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.